

A Sampling of Supportive Statements About the Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act (S. 2191)

Environmental and Conservation Groups

Larry Schweiger, President and CEO, National Wildlife Federation

"This evening's vote marks a new era in Congress and a new approach to global warming. After years of empty promises in Congress, this evening's victory is a sign that the leadership and political will are at hand to get the job done. The Senate Environment and Public Works Committee, led by Sen. Barbara Boxer, D-Calif., has sent to the full Senate meaningful global warming legislation that would quickly put the nation on the right path to reducing the pollution causing global warming."

Fred Krupp, President, Environmental Defense

"This bill hits all the right notes – it would drive the reductions we need now and fuel American innovation. Finally, there's a path to real action on global warming on the floor of the Senate. The authors and Chairman Boxer deserve credit for crafting a strong bill that can win support from both sides of the aisle."

Frances Beinecke, President, Natural Resources Defense Council

"I would like to thank you and congratulate you, on behalf of our 1.2 million members and online activists, for your leadership and success in favorably reporting the Lieberman Warner Climate Security Act (S. 2191) to the U.S. Senate on December 5, 2007. This historic vote reflects the growing momentum and public demand to cut America's global warming pollution."

Rodger Schlickeisen, President, Defenders of Wildlife

"This bill marks an important step forward in protecting America's wildlife from the impacts of global warming. Even with rigorous reductions in greenhouse gases, wildlife will continue to feel the effects of global warming over the coming decades because of the greenhouse gas pollution already released into the atmosphere. This bill gives federal, state and local resource managers the tools they need to help wildlife survive these impacts until mankind can gain control of our own greenhouse gas pollution."

Stephanie Meeks, Acting President and CEO, The Nature Conservancy

"Lieberman-Warner's comprehensive approach recognizes the importance of addressing all major sources of greenhouse gas emissions, and the role that forest conservation and restoration can play in combating climate change. The bill also clearly recognizes the dramatic impact climate change will have on plants, wildlife and natural areas and the long term importance of conserving, protecting and managing natural systems, such as coastal wetlands, that can buffer and mitigate the effects of climate change. This would be the most significant investment in American conservation in our generation."

Steve Moyer, Vice President of Government Affairs, Trout Unlimited

"Science shows us that there is still time to overcome problems caused by climate change if we act soon and prepare properly. S. 2191 is the strong medicine needed to cure the scourge of climate change and to help fish and wildlife resources survive its harmful impacts."

Richard Moss, Vice President of the U.S. Climate Change Program, World Wildlife Fund

"This landmark legislation sends a powerful message to the negotiators currently meeting in Bali and to the world that the U.S., as a nation, is committed to addressing climate change. It not only takes a comprehensive approach in addressing climate change, but creates a framework that includes international forest carbon credits, funding for international forestry conservation, and adaptation."

Private Enterprise

John Rowe, Chairman and CEO, Exelon Corporation

"As an early and vocal advocate for climate change legislation, Exelon applauds the bipartisan leadership of Senators Lieberman and Warner to introduce a bill that will help reduce greenhouse gas emissions to address global warming as soon as possible. The legislation represents another important step towards developing the bipartisan consensus necessary to enact legislation this Congress. We are especially pleased that the bill recognizes the need to protect electricity consumers by allocating part of the allowances to local utilities for the benefit of their customers."

Steven Kline, Vice President for Corporate Environmental and Federal Affairs, PGE Corp.

"We believe America's Climate Security Act provides a solid starting point for constructively advancing a comprehensive, national response to and policy on climate change. Senators Lieberman and Warner have developed a thoughtful proposal that recognizes the urgent need for action by designing a program to achieve significant emission reductions from all sectors of the economy. The bill includes provisions that prioritize energy efficiency and technology development and deployment, as well as innovative ideas to protect electricity consumers, manage overall program costs, and provide states with the resources to help address the unique needs of their communities and citizens as we transition to a low-carbon economy and adapt to a changing environment. America's Climate Security Act takes significant steps toward recognizing that a national program must balance the economic, technology, and environmental challenges of combating climate change."

Kevin Anton, President, ALCOA Materials Management

"We support S. 2191 because we believe an economy wide cap and trade program has to be the core of a comprehensive US climate program, and because the Act meets our most important criteria in establishing such a program."

Lisa Jacobson, Executive Director, Business Council for Sustainable Energy

"The Business Council for Sustainable Energy (BCSE) commends the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee and your leadership in support of passage of S. 2191, the 'Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act.' We specifically appreciate the inclusion of Section 4406, the Sustainable Energy Program in the substitute and committee-approved bill. The program directs a portion of auction proceeds be used to promote renewable energy."

Agriculture

Will Roehm, Vice President, Montana Grain Growers Association

"On behalf of the National Association of Wheat Growers, I would like to commend you Chairman Lieberman and Senator Warner for developing legislation to control greenhouse gas emissions that recognizes the important role that agriculture can play in capturing and storing greenhouse gasses. ... I can state today that the National Association of Wheat Growers intends to actively support your efforts and we look forward to working with you and your staff as the process moves forward."

The Agricultural Carbon Market Working Group Steering Committee

"Your bill with Senator Warner takes an important first step in providing the necessary infrastructure for agriculture to be recognized for the immediate, cost effective and real greenhouse gas reductions and offsets our industry can provide. We are particularly pleased to see the agriculture industry presented with the option of pursuing a carbon offset market – which we believe is the right policy for both the environment and for launching a new agricultural commodity: carbon."

State Fish and Wildlife Agencies

Matt Hogan, Executive Director, Association of Fish and Wildlife Agencies

"We are very appreciative that the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee recognized in its bill the need for assured and dedicated funding to the state and federal natural resources agencies to remediate the effects of climate change on fish, wildlife and their habitats. We laud the leadership of Senator Lieberman and Senator Warner in particular for recognizing the vital role that the state fish and wildlife agencies can and will play in managing for adaptation capacity for fish and wildlife populations, and ensuring the resiliency of habitats to sustain fish and wildlife resources affected by climate change."

Religious Organizations

The Reverend Jim Ball, Spokesperson, The Evangelical Climate Initiative

"We applaud the Senate Environment and Public Works Committee for its approval of the Lieberman-Warner bill and we commend Senators Warner and Lieberman for their leadership. We believe global warming is a moral problem and we see every step toward protecting God's creation to be a moral moment. ... We especially appreciate Senator Warner's leadership with a provision to help the poorest countries around the world adapt to the consequences of climate change, thereby helping to avoid potential national security threats from arising."

Hadar Susskind, Jewish Council for Public Affairs, and Jennifer Kefer, Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life

"The Jewish Council for Public Affairs (JCPA) and the Coalition on the Environment and Jewish Life (COEJL) would like to thank you for co-sponsoring The America's Climate Security Act (S 2191). Your extraordinary leadership and vision has moved us closer to passing national global warming legislation and becoming leaders in the worldwide fight against climate change. ... We are particularly pleased with the effort this legislation makes to reduce the impact of climate change on the world's poor. Our tradition teaches us to 'Speak up, judge righteously, champion the poor and needy' (Proverbs 31:9). The international poverty provisions in the bill help realize this moral imperative."

Native American Tribes

National Tribal Environmental Council

"The National Tribal Environmental Council (NTEC), on behalf of its 184 federally-recognized member tribes, commends Senators Joseph Lieberman (I-CT) and John Warner (R-VA) for developing bipartisan climate change legislation that takes measurable steps to address global warming and move the nation away from a course of uncontrolled greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions. 'We are particularly encouraged' said Kirk Francis, chairman of NTEC's board of directors and Chief of the Penobscot Nation of Maine, 'for the Senators' recognition in their bill of federally-recognized tribes and the need of our nation's tribes for resources to address the adverse impacts of global warming currently facing their communities.'"

Professional Associations

David Mongan, President, American Society of Civil Engineers

"The Lieberman-Warner Climate Security Act of 2007 is one of the most significant pieces of legislation to come before the Committee in nearly 20 years. If enacted, it would fundamentally alter the way in which the United States produces and consumes energy for the rest of this century and beyond. It would reduce greenhouse gas emissions to the benefit of the nation and mankind. ASCE believes Congress must address the problem of climate change as soon as possible. Our policies support enactment of legislation to reduce the major greenhouse gases

that contribute to climate change, and the abatement programs contained in the Lieberman-Warner bill offer the best opportunity for Congress to take the lead on this important issue. After years of debate, it is time to act."

Catherine Hunt, President, American Chemical Society

"On behalf of the 160,000 members of the American Chemical Society, I am writing to commend you for your leadership in addressing climate change. Specifically, your bill, The America Climate Security Act of 2007 (S.2191), is an important contribution to the debate about climate change. In particular, ACS supports the establishment of a federal greenhouse gas registry, incentives for the capture and storage of carbon dioxide, and a diversion of cap and trade permit auction revenues into the Advanced Research Projects Agency - Energy (ARPA-E)."